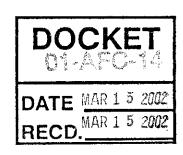
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission



Application for Certification of the Roseville Energy Facility) Docket No. 01-AFC-14
(REF))

Response to CEC Staff Data Requests 157-192

On March 5, 2002 Applicant received Staff Data Requests 157-192. Applicant is obligated to inform the Assigned Committee and the Staff within 10 days of the receipt of the requests if Applicant objects to any of the requests and if Applicant requires additional time to answer any of the requests. We do not object to any of the data requests, but request additional time to file responses.

As Applicant indicated in its Status Report #3, dated March 1, 2002, the REF is currently working with various entities to determine the final project design. With the exception of eight questions in the Noise impacts area, all of the Staff data requests responses require the Applicant to finalize the gas delivery route with PG&E and the grid interconnection requirements with Western Area Power Administration ("Western"). When these two project elements are finalized, Applicant can perform the required biological, cultural and paleontology studies and address the other impacts from project construction and operation (e.g., construction noise, traffic impacts, etc.)

- 1. Transmission Interconnection. Applicant filed a Western System Impact Study (SIS) on January 25, 2002. The SIS is the base line for establishing the mitigation plan for the REF project. Coordination with the various utilities and the California ISO is on going and necessary to gain acceptance of the transmission impacts and mitigation requirements as a result of the REF project. Applicant has also been meeting with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District to determine impacts and mitigation to their system, if any, to accommodate the interconnection. While this document reflects the system upgrades necessary to connect the project to the Western grid, Applicant believes there are alternate methods of connection that could lessen the environmental impacts from construction and operation. Applicant has been meeting regularly with Western to explore the feasibility of these alternate connection methods and hopes to have a final plan in the near future.
- 2. <u>Gas Delivery.</u> PG&E has provided Applicant with a study that includes three natural gas pipeline alternatives. The first alternative was provided in the Application for Certification. The other two alternatives provide a gas route to be constructed from the

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project to the proposed FPL Rio Linda/Elverta project and the other from the REF project to a point along the FPL Rio Linda/Elverta pipeline. Both routes will interconnect with PG&E line 172, with reinforcements between line 172 and PG&E's main north-south line 400. Environmentally addressing both alternatives will assure REF of a gas line irrespective of the status of FPL's Rio Linda/Elverta project. Applicant is working with PG&E to select an alternate route for the proposed gas line that, we believe, involves less environmental impacts than proposed by PG&E.

- Biology Spring Studies. Each of the two above-described natural gas lines and 3. electric transmission corridors requiring Spring biology surveys. Applicant has just recently obtained property owner information and sought survey approval for the required biology studies along the natural gas transmission lines. Applicant is obtaining property owner approval to complete the required biology studies along the transmission lines identified in the SIS. The Spring window for these studies commences in mid-March and lasts until the last part of May. Applicant anticipates that it can successfully complete the required biology studies in this time period.
- Cultural and Paleontology Studies. At the same time that Applicant is performing 4. the biology studies, it will perform studies to determine the cultural and paleontology resources present on the electric and gas transmission corridors. Applicant believes these studies can be completed by June of this year.
- Agency Approvals. The above-detailed information that will be developed in the 5. next two to three months will also be submitted to interested federal agencies so that federal approvals, in addition to Western, can be achieved in a timely manner. Also, Applicant expects to receive the Preliminary Determination of Compliance from the Placer County Air Pollution Control District in the next few months
- Schedule. Applicant proposes the following schedule: 6.

April 1, 2002 Status Report #4 May 1, 2002 Status Report #5 June 1, 2002 Status Report #6 June 15, 2002 Submit draft PDOC July 1, 2002 Submit all data request responses July 15, 2002 Submit revised BA Early August, 2002 Preliminary Staff Analysis 9/1/02 Federal agencies Draft EIS

10/15/02 Local and federal final determinations Early November 2002 Final Staff Analysis Mid November, 2002 Prehearing conference Early December 2002 Hearings

Applicant regrets that this necessary project information has not been available before now, but the determination of the linear project components has been very difficult, given the other projects in the general vicinity. Applicant recognizes that the above schedule will not likely yield a Final Decision prior to March of 2003, and accepts this consequence of providing this information late in the CEC process. Applicant wants to assure the Staff and the Assigned Committee that it has both the commitment and the funds necessary for project completion.

Dated:

March 15, 2002

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